

RHODE ISLAND VISION EDECATION AND SERVICES PROGRAM ADVISORY BOARD

4:30 PM – 6:30 PM
Tech ACCESS
110 Jefferson Blvd.
Warwick, RI 02888

Minutes
March 1, 2011

Members Present: Chris Butler, Paul Loberti, Judy Lundsten, William Potter, Gloria Stuart, Jennifer Anderson

Members Absent: Terrence Chapman, Themmi Evangelatos, Elizabeth Frampton

Guests/Ex-Officio Members: Lisa Labitt, Melanie Sbardella, Claire Irwin, David Sienko, Melissa MacDonald and Grace Pires

Call to Order:

- The meeting called to order by Paul Loberti at 4:35pm

Acceptance of Minutes:

- Approval of minutes from October 5, 2010
- Approval of minutes from December 7, 2010 with the edit of Sue Mitchell listed as a member instead of an ex-officio

New Business:

- Reviewed final draft of the RIVESP AB guiding principles, accepted with minimal clerical edits. Melissa will finalize and send to the AB
- Issue/Operation form will be sent to members along with guiding principles
- Reviewed final draft of membership bios, accepted with no changes. Melissa will send a copy to the members
- Presentation of new member applicants was tabled to April 5, 2011 meeting. Member profiles will be shared over the list serve to all members for review and a decision on April 5, 2011 meeting. Co-Chairs will assist the AB with decision making by reviewing the governing legislation and making sure that the required areas for the committee and necessary representation is met.
- A Recording Secretary was discussed and will be tabled until next month. There are two options- One person of interest could self identify or the committee may decide to make a rotating schedule of the membership.
- Paul mentioned an idea for a new template to take meeting minutes and he will present it to the membership next month. Melissa will bring the current template for comparison.

- The content of an orientation packet was discussed- members agreed it should include all of the new supporting documents and governing legislation. Melissa will prepare a sample for the members to review. Members suggested having a peer mentor matched up with new members. Gloria Stuart offered to be a mentor in the future. Creating an electronic packet was suggested by Paul.
- The RIVESP AB presented to the Board of Regents in 2009(Paul & Gloria), but did not present in 2010 and has not yet presented in 2011. Discussion occurred about the format, content and preparation of the report. Melissa and David will discuss the protocol and timeline with Tony. Paul shared that he had invited Rep Naughton to a meeting this year but she was unable to make it, but he would like to invite her again in the future.
- History of the RIVESP parent group that Paul and Elizabeth ran in the past was discussed. Paul reported that the group has not met in two years. Paul and Elizabeth have spoken to Tony Antosh about reviving the group, but is that the answer remains the question. The membership shared existing avenues on how parents can get involved and be supported with their child's education. The LAC's, SEAN, RIPIN, PTO's etc... are some available resources. Future exploration and discussion with the RIVESP Program TVI's and how they assist with effectively connecting parents with their school system is of interest. Jennifer expressed interest to assist the AB with this scope of work. She currently participates in webinars and on-line discussions sponsored by the Jewish Guild for the Blind which she finds to be a helpful resource as a parent.

Old Business:

- Ad Hoc planning group gave an update-progress thus far with fact finding statewide is almost complete. More details to come. Once finalized it will be shared with the AB. The Ad Hoc group will request a meeting with David Sienko and Tony Antosh to discuss how and when the information will be delivered to the LEA's.

Agenda Items for next meeting were:

- Secretary Identified
- Presentation of new members to fill vacancy
- Board of Regents meeting/report out
- Paul to present and idea for minute taking
- Parent group discussion continued
- Jen parent contacts through TVI's

Next meeting – Tuesday, April 5, 2011

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:35pm